Appl. No. 10/680,352
Amdt. Dated Oct. 1, 2007
Reply to Office Action Mailed June 29, 2007

REMARKS

These Remarks are in response to the Office action mailed June 29th, 2007. Claims 1, 4-5 and 8-9 have been amended. Claims 1-9 remain pending in the application.

Priority

As stated, the certified English translation of the foreign application must be submitted in reply to the Office action to preserve applicant's rights.

In response, a certified English translation of the foreign application is attached hereto.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-3 and 5-9 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1-13 of co-pending Application No. 10/405,879. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claims 1-13 in the '879 application teach all the elements in claims 1-3 and 5-9 in the instant application. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

Applicant would like to delay filing of a terminal disclaimer until such time (if any) that Examiner indicates that any of claims 1-3 and 5-9 are allowable under s.103. In this regard, Examiner's consent is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mattson et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,687,713, hereinafter referred to as "Mattson") in view of Mehldahl (U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2005/0055289) and further in view of Hamilton (U.S. Patent Number 6,968,316).

In response to the rejections, applicant has amended independent claims 1, 5 and 9, by adding more limitations thereinto. Support for the amendments can be found in the originally filed specification and/or drawings of the present application (e.g. para. [0015] on pages 5-6 of the specification). No new matter is entered. Applicant requests reconsideration and removal of the rejections and allowance of the claims, as follows:

Claims 1-4

Claim 1, as amended, recites in part:

'a basic information maintaining module for adding, modifying, searching and deleting basic information, wherein the basic information maintaining module comprises *an account group maintaining device for grouping accounts according to main accounts or subsidiary accounts*'.

Applicant submits that none of Mattson, Mehldahl, and Hamilton, whether taken alone or in combination, teaches or otherwise suggests the invention having the above-highlighted features as currently set forth in amended claim 1.

As stated on page 6 of the Office action, Mattson discloses a step of drilling down accounting into expenditure by object codes (see FIG. 13A, 817). However, Mattson does not provide any teaching or suggestion about the feature of "grouping accounts" as recited in claim 1. It is understood that the purpose of "drilling down accounting into expenditure" is to

calculate or liquidate the accountings, but the "grouping accounts" feature in claim 1 is to classify existing accounts into a plurality of groups. That is, the claimed function of "grouping accounts ..." is patentably distinct from all of the types of groups (if any) taught or suggested by Mattson. Furthermore, the present grouped accounts are convenient for calculating balances and generating individualized statements (see para. [0015] on pages 5-6 of the present specification).

Accordingly, Mattson fails to teach or suggest the feature of 'the basic information maintaining module comprises *an account group maintaining device for grouping accounts according to main accounts or subsidiary accounts*', as set forth in amended claim 1 (see para. [0015] on pages 5-6 of the present specification). Furthermore, Mehldahl and Hamilton, whether considered alone or in combination with each other and/or with Mattson, do not teach or suggest the above-highlighted feature.

Amended claim 1 also recites in part:

'a journal voucher registering module for registering journal vouchers according to source materials generated during business activities; [and]
a carrying forward module for automatically carrying forward accounts and data of journal vouchers to corresponding accounts of a ledger, and generating debit or credit balances of accounts'.

Applicant submits that none of Mattson, Mehldahl, and Hamilton, whether taken alone or in combination, teaches or otherwise suggests the invention having the above-highlighted features as currently set forth in amended claim 1.

Mattson discloses a state budgeting system that provides expense data on contract information and expense type for a state accounting system, and the state accounting system that provides personnel data, such as salary,

title, location etc, for a state personnel system (see col. 5 lines 4-17). Mattson further discloses that a user may select an "accounting" portion and drill down to view business processes (see col. 7 lines 28-34).

As indicated in these disclosures, the state budgeting system and the state accounting system described by Mattson only teach the function of providing or transmitting data from one system to another system. For example, purchasing data and investment data, along with budgeting, accounting, and personnel systems feed into an integrated financial management system (see col. 5 lines 15-17). However, Mattson does not provide any teaching or suggestion regarding a function of *registering journal vouchers according to source materials generated during business activities*. The present journal voucher registering is distinct from any of the kinds of systems disclosed by Mattson. Therefore, the presently claimed function of registering journal vouchers is patentably different from the information or systems provided by Mattson. Furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion in Mattson about "*generating debit or credit balances of accounts*", as recited in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, Mattson fails to teach or suggest the features of '*a journal voucher registering module for registering journal vouchers according to source materials generated during business activities*; [and] *a carrying forward module for automatically carrying forward accounts and data of journal vouchers to corresponding accounts of a ledger, and generating debit or credit balances of accounts*', as set forth in amended claim 1 (see paras. [0017]-[0018] on page 7 of the present specification).

Furthermore, Mehldahl and Hamilton, whether considered alone or in combination with each other and/or with Mattson, do not teach or suggest the above-highlighted features as set forth in amended claim 1.

For at least the above reasons, amended claim 1 is unobvious and

patentable over Mattson in view of Mehldahl, and further in view of Hamilton under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of amended claim 1 are requested.

Dependent claims 2-4 include all the subject matter of independent claim 1, and incorporate additional subject matter thereinto. Thus, claims 2-4 should also be allowable.

Claims 5-8

Claim 5, as amended, recites in part:

'obtaining accounts and data from the external financial system and entering the accounts and data to corresponding columns of journal vouchers automatically, if there is an external financial system; [and]

carrying forward accounts and data of journal vouchers to corresponding accounts of a ledger, and generating debit or credit balances of accounts'.

For at least reasons similar to those asserted above in relation to claim 1, applicant asserts that none of Mattson, Mehldahl, and Hamilton, whether taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the present invention having the above-highlighted features as set forth in amended claim 5.

Accordingly, applicant submits that amended claim 5 is unobvious and patentable over Mattson in view of Mehldahl, and further in view of Hamilton under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of amended claim 5 are requested.

Dependent claims 6-8 include all the subject matter of independent claim 5, and incorporate additional subject matter thereinto. Thus, claims 6-8 should also be allowable.

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Claim 9

Claim 9, as amended, recites in part:

'*means for grouping accounts according to main accounts or subsidiary accounts;*

means for registering journal vouchers according to source materials generated during business activities; [and]

means for automatically carrying forward accounts and data of journal vouchers to corresponding accounts of a ledger, and generating debit or credit balances of accounts'.

For at least reasons similar to those asserted above in relation to amended claim 1, applicant asserts that none of Mattson, Mehldahl, and Hamilton, whether taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the present invention having the above-highlighted features as set forth in amended claim 9.

Accordingly, applicant submits that amended claim 9 is unobvious and patentable over Mattson in view of Mehldahl, and further in view of Hamilton under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of amended claim 9 are requested.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance, and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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By _____
Wei Te Chung

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